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United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

Report of the Secretary-General

Summary

The present report is submitted pursuant to General Assembly resolution 70/116. It covers the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law in 2016, as well as the activities planned for 2017 and the administrative and financial implications.

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I. Introduction

1. By its resolution 70/116, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to carry out, in 2016 and 2017, the activities specified in his report on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law (A/70/423), submitted to the Assembly at its seventieth session. In paragraph 23 of the same resolution, the Assembly requested the Secretary-General to report at its seventy-first session on the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2016 and, following consultations with the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance, to submit recommendations regarding the Programme of Assistance in subsequent years.

2. The present report provides information concerning the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2016, as well as the activities planned for 2017 and the administrative and financial implications.

II. Implementation of the Programme of Assistance during 2016

3. The Codification Division of the Office of Legal Affairs is responsible for the implementation of the Programme of Assistance.[1] The Division performs various functions, such as preparing reports of the Secretary-General and providing services to the Advisory Committee and the Sixth Committee on the related agenda item. It also maintains the website of the Programme of Assistance.

A. International Law Fellowship Programme

4. The International Law Fellowship Programme provides comprehensive training by highly qualified international law scholars and practitioners from different regions and legal systems for lawyers from developing countries and countries with emerging economies, under the Programme of Assistance.[2] The fellows attend the Public International Law session at The Hague Academy of International Law and seminars organized by the Codification Division on a broad range of core subjects of international law. Study visits are also arranged for the participants.

5. The International Law Fellowship Programme was held at The Hague from 27 June to 5 August 2016. A total of 21 fellows (10 men and 11 women) were selected for the Fellowship Programme.[3] It was conducted in French in 2016.

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[1] For information on other activities of the Office of Legal Affairs, see documents A/71/10, A/71/17 and A/71/74 and the Treaty Section website (https://treaties.un.org).

[2] Since 2010, the Codification Division has conducted the Fellowship Programme at The Hague as a necessary cost-saving measure to increase the number of fellowships provided through the regular budget (see A/65/514, para. 12).

[3] Nearly 330 applications were received from 55 Member States for 21 fellowships (235 from Africa, 25 from Asia-Pacific, 10 from Eastern Europe and 59 from Latin America and the Caribbean). The fellowship participants were from the following Member States: Burundi, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Chad, Colombia, Comoros, Côte d'Ivoire, Cuba, Dominican Republic, Guinea, Haiti, Indonesia, Mali, Morocco, Niger, Peru, Republic of Moldova, Senegal, Togo and Viet Nam. The participants included lawyers working for various government offices (ministries of foreign affairs and justice, as well as parliaments) and academic institutions.

6. The Hague Academy lectures consisted of (in chronological order): "Why do we need a law of treaties?" (Inaugural Lecture) (Sir F. Berman QC, Barrister and International Arbitrator); "International law — between letter and spirit" (General Course) (M. Bennouna, Judge, International Court of Justice); "International organizations and their operational actions for State reconstruction" (J.-Y. De Cara, Professor, Paris Descartes University); "Human dignity and international law" (P. De Sena, Professor, Catholic University of Milan); "International case law in the development of international law" (B. B. Jia, Professor, Tsinghua University, Beijing); "The prohibition of torture in contemporary international law" (F. Mariño Menendez, Professor, Carlos III University, Madrid); "International law relating to islands" (S. Murphy, Professor, George Washington University, Washington, D.C., and Member, International Law Commission); and "Shared responsibility in international law" (A. Nollkaemper, Professor, University of Amsterdam).

7. The seminars organized by the Codification Division consisted of (in chronological order): "Introduction to international law" and "The work of the International Law Commission" (M. Forteau, Professor, University of Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, and Member, International Law Commission); "Treaty law" (S. Villalpando, Chief, Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs); "International peace and security" (M. Kohen, Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva); "State responsibility" and "Diplomatic and consular relations" (P. Bodeau-Livinec, Professor, University Paris 8, Vincennes-Saint-Denis); "United Nations and law-making" (F. Messineo, Legal Officer, Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs); "International human rights law" (L.-A. Sicilianos, Judge, European Court of Human Rights); "International Human Rights Law: The Latin American System" (A. A. Cançado Trindade, Judge, International Court of Justice); "Peaceful settlement of international disputes" (O. Corten, Professor, Free University of Brussels); "Law of the sea" (T. Treves, Professor, University of Milan, and former Judge, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea); "International environmental law" and "International organizations" (L. Boisson de Chazournes, Professor, University of Geneva); "International humanitarian law" (A. Lagerwall, Professor, Free University of Brussels); "International criminal law" (B. Bonafé, Professor, Sapienza University of Rome); and "International trade law" and "International investment law" (M. M. Mbengue, Professor, University of Geneva). In addition, the participants took part in a moot court exercise organized by the Codification Division.

8. Study visits with briefings by senior officials were arranged for the participants at the International Court of Justice, the International Criminal Court and the Permanent Court of Arbitration.

B. United Nations Regional Courses in International Law

9. The United Nations Regional Courses in International Law provide training by highly qualified international law scholars and practitioners on a broad range of core subjects of international law and specific subjects of

particular interest to the countries in a given region.[4] The courses provide an important mechanism for expanding the international law training opportunities available to lawyers from developing countries, given the limited number of participants who can be accommodated in the International Law Fellowship Programme. The courses also provide participants with an opportunity to focus on contemporary issues of international law of common interest to the region, with a view to promoting greater understanding and cooperation on such issues.

1. Africa

10. The Regional Course in International Law for Africa was held at the Economic Commission for Africa in Ethiopia from 1 to 26 February 2016. The course was conducted in English. A total of 31 participants (15 men and 16 women) attended the course, with 23 fellowship participants and 7 self-funded participants.[5] One participant received a partial fellowship.

11. The seminars for the Regional Course consisted of (in chronological order): "Introduction to international law" (G. Nolte, Professor, Humboldt University, Berlin, and Member, International Law Commission); "Community interests in international law" (D. Stewart, Associate Legal Officer, Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs); "Africa and international law in the twenty-first century" and "Self-determination under international law" (A. Yusuf, Vice President, International Court of Justice); "International investment law" (J. Donoghue, Judge, International Court of Justice); "International environmental law" and "International organizations" (L. Boisson de Chazournes, Professor, University of Geneva); "International trade law" and "African Union law and institutions" (M. M. Mbengue, Professor, University of Geneva); "International human rights law" (O. Okafor, Professor, Osgoode Hall Law School, York University, Toronto, and Chairperson, Human Rights Council Advisory Committee); "Law of the sea" (N. Oral, Professor, Istanbul Bilgi University); "Codification and progressive development of international law: the work of the International Law Commission" and "International peace and security" (D. Tladi, Professor, University of Pretoria, and Member, International Law Commission); "Law of treaties" and "State responsibility" (S. Villalpando, Chief, Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs); "Peaceful settlement of international disputes" (B. Daly, Deputy Secretary-General and Principal Legal

[4] Since 2011, the Codification Division has conducted the Regional Courses in International Law as a necessary cost-saving measure to increase the number of fellowships and better meet the increasing demand for international law training. All administrative, financial and practical arrangements, such as travel and accommodations, were previously entrusted to the United Nations Institute for Training and Research, which required funding for its Professional and General Service staff members who performed those services over a period of approximately six months for each regional course. In 2016, the Codification Division used extrabudgetary resources to recruit a temporary General Service staff member to handle the increase in administrative, financial and logistical matters resulting from the four training courses being conducted by the Division for the first time in the history of the Programme of Assistance.

[5] Nearly 250 applications were received from 39 Member States. The participants were from the following Member States: Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cameroon, Chad, Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Egypt, Ethiopia, Eritrea, Gambia, Ghana, Kenya, Malawi, Mauritius, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, South Sudan, Swaziland, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania and Zimbabwe. The participants included lawyers working for various government offices (including ministries of foreign affairs and justice, as well as offices of attorneys general and presidents), regional organizations (including the African Union) and academic institutions.

Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration); and "International humanitarian law" and "International criminal law" (K. Riordan, Chief Judge, Court Martial of New Zealand, Judge Advocate General, Armed Forces of New Zealand, and Lecturer, Victoria University of Wellington). The Legal Counsel of the African Union, Vincent Nmehielle, also provided a briefing on the work of the African Union in the field of international law.

2. Asia-Pacific

12. The Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific is scheduled to be held from 7 November to 2 December 2016 in Bangkok. The course will be conducted in English.

13. The following seminars will be given during the Regional Course (in chronological order): "Introduction to international law" (A. Pellet, Emeritus Professor, University of Paris Ouest Nanterre La Défense, and former Member, International Law Commission); "International environmental law" and "International organizations" (L. Boisson de Chazournes, Professor, University of Geneva); "International human rights law" (V. Muntarbhorn, Professor, Chulalongkorn University, Bangkok); "Law of treaties" and "State responsibility" (S. Villalpando, Chief, Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs); "The current international law challenges and opportunities for Asia-Pacific" and "Human security" (H. Owada, Judge, International Court of Justice); "International peace and security" (Sir M. Wood, Senior Fellow, Lauterpacht Centre, University of Cambridge, and Member, International Law Commission); "Peaceful settlement of international disputes" (B. Daly, Deputy Secretary-General and Principal Legal Counsel, Permanent Court of Arbitration); "International humanitarian law" and "International criminal law" (K. Riordan, Chief Judge, Court Martial of New Zealand, Judge Advocate General, Armed Forces of New Zealand, and Lecturer, Victoria University of Wellington); "International trade law" and "International investment law" (M. M. Mbengue, Professor, University of Geneva); and "Codification and progressive development of international law: the work of the International Law Commission" and "Law of the sea" (S. Murphy, Professor, George Washington University Law School, and Member, International Law Commission).

3. Latin America and the Caribbean

14. For the first time in more than a decade, the Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean took place in Uruguay in 2016. The Regional Course was held at the Instituto Artigas del Servicio Exterior of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Uruguay in Montevideo from 4 to 29 April 2016. It was conducted in English. A total of 22 participants (12 men and 10 women) attended the course, with 19 fellowship participants and 3 self-funded participants.[6]

[6] A total of 103 applications were received from 26 Member States. The participants were from the following Member States: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Chile, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guyana, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Paraguay, Peru, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay and Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of). The participants included lawyers working for various government offices (including ministries of foreign affairs and justice), the judiciary, regional organizations (including the Organization of Eastern Caribbean States) and academic institutions.

15. The seminars for the Regional Course consisted of (in chronological order): "The contribution of Latin American doctrine to the development of international law" (Inaugural Lecture) (A. A. Cançado Trindade, Judge, International Court of Justice); "Introduction to international law" (J. Viñuales, Professor, University of Cambridge); "International human rights law" (D. Stewart, Associate Legal Officer, Codification Division, Office of Legal Affairs); "International peace and security" (D. Tladi, Professor, University of Pretoria, and Member, International Law Commission); "Law of the sea" (T. Treves, Professor, University of Milan, and former Judge, International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea); "The work of the International Law Commission" and "Introduction to the law and institutions of the Organization of American States" (M. Vázquez-Bermudez, Alternate Representative of Ecuador to the Organization of American States, and Member, International Law Commission); "International humanitarian law" and "International criminal law" (K. Riordan, Chief Judge, Court Martial of New Zealand, Judge Advocate General, Armed Forces of New Zealand, and Lecturer, Victoria University of Wellington); "International trade law" (F. Morosini, Professor, Federal University of Rio Grande do Sul, Porto Alegre); "International investment law" (C. Giorgetti, Professor, University of Richmond School of Law); "International environmental law" (D. Bodansky, Professor, Arizona State University); "International organizations" (M. Pinto, Dean, University of Buenos Aires Law School); "Peaceful settlement of international disputes" (L. Caflisch, Honorary Professor, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, and Member, International Law Commission); and "Law of treaties" and "State responsibility" (S. Villalpando, Chief, Treaty Section, Office of Legal Affairs).

4. Permanent venues for the United Nations Regional Courses in International Law

16. Following the increase in the demand for international law training, the Codification Division considered identifying permanent venues for the Regional Courses in International Law in order to facilitate the organization of the courses on a regular basis in Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean. Permanent venues would provide enhanced efficiency, cost savings and greater certainty with respect to the Regional Courses without precluding the possibility of holding such a course at another location.

17. Six Regional Courses in International Law for Africa were successfully conducted annually in Ethiopia from 2011 to 2016. Ethiopia has concluded the necessary host country agreement. In addition, the Economic Commission for Africa provides significant in-kind contributions that reduce the cost of the course, including the training venue, office space for United Nations staff and lecturers, dining facilities, equipment and transportation. The Economic Commission for Africa also provides essential assistance with respect to meeting services, administrative and financial services, information technology support, procurement, security, medical facilities and protocol. The cooperation provided by the Economic Commission for Africa reduces the need to recruit additional staff to perform those functions and lessens the burden on the Office of Legal Affairs resulting from the increase in the number of training courses held per year. Ethiopia would provide a suitable venue for the Regional Course for Africa.

18. Three Regional Courses in International Law for Asia-Pacific were successfully conducted in Thailand in 1986, 2005 and 2012. Thailand has concluded the necessary host country agreement.

19. In 2017, the Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean will be conducted at the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) in Santiago. ECLAC will provide extensive administrative and financial assistance in the organization of the Regional Course.

C. United Nations International Law Seminar for Arab States

20. The United Nations International Law Seminar for Arab States was organized by the Codification Division, in cooperation with the Government of Egypt and the League of Arab States. The Seminar, which was conducted in English, was held at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Egypt in Cairo from 15 to 19 November 2015, and provided a one-week intensive training course for government lawyers and lawyers working for the League of Arab States. A total of 24 self-funded participants (14 men and 10 women) attended the course.[7]

21. The courses for the United Nations International Law Seminar for Arab States consisted of (in chronological order): "The importance of international law for Arab States" and "Self-determination in international law" (A. Yusuf, Vice-President, International Court of Justice); "International law" (S. Murphy, Professor, George Washington University Law School, and Member, International Law Commission); "International human rights law" (Sir N. Rodley, Professor, University of Essex, and Member and former Chair, Human Rights Committee); and "International humanitarian law" and "International criminal law" (K. Riordan, Chief Judge, Court Martial of New Zealand, Judge Advocate General, Armed Forces of New Zealand, and Lecturer, Victoria University of Wellington). In addition, the following briefings were organized: "Introduction to the work of the International Law Commission" and "Introduction to the League of Arab States" (H. Hassouna, Ambassador, and Member, International Law Commission); and "Crimes against humanity" (S. Murphy).

22. The seminar was funded by voluntary contributions from Qatar ($5,000), Saudi Arabia ($15,000) and the United Arab Emirates ($10,000), as well as in-kind contributions from Egypt.

23. The International Law Seminar for Arab States that was planned for 2016 was cancelled owing to insufficient funding.

D. African Institute of International Law

24. The African Institute of International Law promotes teaching, dissemination and advanced research in international law, the law of the African Union and other regional organizations, provides capacity-building for faculties of law in African universities by strengthening their research and teaching capabilities in the field of international law and serves as a think tank for African continental and regional organizations in the field of international law.

[7] A total of 45 applications were received from 18 Member States that are also members of the League of Arab States, as well as the Non-member Observer State of Palestine. The participants were from: Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Libya, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, State of Palestine, Tunisia, United Arab Emirates and Yemen. The participants included lawyers working for various government ministries, the League of Arab States and academic institutions.

Pursuant to General Assembly resolution 70/116, the Codification Division continued to cooperate with and provide guidance, upon request, to the African Institute of International Law, in Arusha, with respect to building its research library for African scholars and practitioners, as well as its training seminars on specific topics of international law and African Union law for government officials and practitioners.[8] In that regard, the Secretary of the Advisory Committee on the Programme of Assistance participated in a planning mission conducted by the African Institute in Ghana for the purpose of the organization of an international law seminar in Ghana for academics from African universities to promote capacity-building throughout the region and to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the Programme of Assistance. The first International Law Seminar for African Universities was held from 15 to 26 August 2016 at the Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre in Accra. The seminar was planned, organized and conducted with guidance and cooperation provided by the Codification Division, in particular with regard to dissemination and study materials.

25. The Seminar was funded by voluntary contributions from China ($20,000), Finland ($20,000), Italy ($20,000), New Zealand ($NZ 30,000) and Sweden ($25,000), as well as in-kind contributions from the Centre. Those contributions were made to the African Institute. The African Union also provided financial support for the seminar ($20,000).

E. United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law

26. Traditional training courses offer unique advantages in terms of promoting in-depth discussions, interaction and cooperation among participants. In response to the increasing demand for international law training that could not be met solely by its traditional training courses, the Codification Division created the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law in 2008. The Audiovisual Library gives the United Nations the capacity to provide, at a relatively low cost, high-quality training to an unlimited number of individuals and institutions around the world free of charge through the Internet.

27. The Audiovisual Library is a virtual training and research centre with more than 400 leading international law scholars, judges and practitioners from different countries and legal systems who contribute to its three pillars: the Lecture Series, the Historic Archives and the Research Library. The Lecture Series contains more than 400 lectures accompanied by lists of related materials linking to reference documents available online. The Lecture Series contains individual lectures on a broad range of specific topics of international law and series of lectures on core topics of international law. The series of lectures and related legal materials are intended to provide a more comprehensive educational resource for academic institutions and government training centres in developing countries. The Historic Archives contains introductory notes by leading authorities, as well as procedural histories, related documents and archival audiovisual materials prepared by the Codification Division on almost 100 legal instruments.[9] The Research Library provides an extensive online

[8] For more information on the African Institute of International Law and its training seminars, see www.aiil-iadi.org.

[9] Legal materials for the Historic Archives and the Lecture Series are provided in all official languages of the Organization.

library consisting of treaties, jurisprudence, publications, documents, scholarly writings and training materials.

28. Since its creation in 2008, the Audiovisual Library has been accessed by more than 1.3 million users in 193 Member States and non-Member States. The Audiovisual Library was created primarily for the benefit of lawyers in developing countries.[10] However, it continues to be accessed primarily by lawyers in developed countries. The limited number of users in developing countries is due to a lack of awareness of the resource and to the technology gap in terms of limited access to computers, electricity and reliable high-speed Internet. The Division is currently exploring the possibility of making the lectures in the Lecture Series available as podcasts or in another downloadable format in order to make them more accessible to users who experience problems streaming them in developing countries. In the meantime, the Codification Division will make lectures available on DVDs and USB flash drives to law schools or institutions in developing countries, upon request, depending on available resources. In December 2015, a collection of lectures on DVDs was prepared for the China Youth University of Political Studies, in Beijing, which had had difficulty accessing the lectures using the Internet.

29. In an effort to promote greater awareness of the Audiovisual Library, the Codification Division gave presentations on the Audiovisual Library at the meetings of the Sixth Committee in the context of its consideration of the item on the Programme of Assistance, at the International Law Seminar for Arab States in Cairo, at the Regional Courses in International Law in Ethiopia and in Uruguay and at the International Law Fellowship Programme in the Netherlands.

F. International law training materials

30. The Codification Division researches, collects and prepares legal materials in hard copy, in consultation with the lecturers, for its international law training courses.[11] In addition, CD-ROMs and USB flash drives containing the training materials and legal publications of the Division and other international law materials are provided to facilitate electronic research for participants in developing countries with limited access to the Internet.[12] The training materials are also made available on the websites of the respective training courses and on the website of the United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law free of charge for academic use. The Codification Division is currently preparing a handbook on international law in English and French containing a collection of legal materials for its training courses and for distribution to academic institutions and government training centres in developing countries. It is also exploring the possibility of cooperating with universities and enlisting the

[10] The Audiovisual Library has been accessed by about 88,000 users in Africa, 270,000 in Asia-Pacific and 66,000 in Latin America and the Caribbean.

[11] In 2016, the Codification Division prepared training materials for the International Law Seminar for Arab States, the International Law Fellowship Programme and the Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean. It wishes to express its appreciation to the American Society of International Law and Oxford University Press for the use of scholarly writings for academic purposes as part of the training materials provided to the participants in the courses.

[12] The Codification Division is now required to purchase its legal publications and other essential United Nations publications, including the Charter of the United Nations, for use in its training courses.

assistance of interns and research assistants for the preparation of the handbook in other official languages.

G. Desktop publishing

31. In 2003, the Codification Division began using desktop publishing, on a voluntary basis and subject to available resources, to expedite the issuance of some of its legal publications and to make them available to the international legal community in a timely manner. By 2013, the Codification Division had successfully eliminated the backlog of up to five years for several of its publications.[13] In 2014, the Codification Division discontinued its desktop publishing because of a lack of resources (necessary materials and staff) following the abolition of a General Service post that year. Consequently, none of the publications listed in paragraph 41 of A/68/521 were issued in 2014, 2015 or to date in 2016. In its resolution 70/116, the General Assembly once again expressed its appreciation for the desktop publishing initiative of the Codification Division during the period from 2003 to 2013, which greatly enhanced the timely issuance of its legal publications, regretted that none of the publications listed in the Secretary-General's report had been issued since 2014 and recommended that the necessary resources be made available to resume that successful initiative.[14] The Codification Division will continue to explore the possibility of resuming its desktop publishing for one or more of its publications, depending on resources.

32. The Codification Division is currently preparing a handbook on international law in English, using desktop publishing to ensure its timely issuance and thereby achieving greater efficiency and cost savings for its training courses. Given the lack of resources, desktop publishing is being funded on an exceptional basis through voluntary contributions.

H. Dissemination

33. The dissemination of legal publications and information through the Internet and other electronic media is intended to supplement the limited number of hard copies, without prejudice to the unique value of printed materials for legal research and education, in particular for lawyers in developing countries with limited access to the Internet. The materials are provided free of charge on the Internet to promote the teaching, study, dissemination and wider appreciation of international law (see annex).

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[13] The backlog was eliminated for the following publications: *United Nations Juridical Yearbook; United Nations Legislative Series; Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice; Reports of International Arbitral Awards;* and *The Work of the International Law Commission* (vols. 1 and 2).

[14] See also General Assembly resolutions 64/113 of 16 December 2009, 65/25 of 6 December 2010, 66/97 of 9 December 2011, 67/91 of 14 December 2012, 68/110 of 16 December 2013 and 69/117 of 10 December 2014.

I. Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea

34. Owing to a lack of voluntary contributions, no award was made in 2016 for the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship on the Law of the Sea.[15] It was estimated that to award one fellowship, approximately $65,000 (including programme support costs and a mandatory reserve) would be required (see also para. 36). The final cost of each fellowship depends on several highly variable factors, including the stipend rates applicable in the cities of the host institutions, currency exchange rates, airfare and the duration of the fellowships. Those factors lead to differences in fellowship costs from year to year, which can range from approximately $50,000 to $70,000.

III. Guidelines and recommendations regarding the implementation of the Programme of Assistance in 2017

35. In 2017, the Codification Division plans to carry out the activities under the Programme of Assistance in accordance with the guidelines and recommendations contained in the report of the Secretary-General (see A/70/423, sect. III) and approved by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/116.

36. Regarding the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship, the current fund balance is approximately $48,000, which is not sufficient to award a fellowship for 2017 unless additional voluntary contributions are received by November 2016.

IV. Administrative and financial implications of the Programme of Assistance

A. During 2016

37. In its resolution 70/116, the General Assembly authorized the Secretary-General to carry out, in 2016 and in 2017, the International Law Fellowship Programme and the Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean and to continue to develop the Audiovisual Library of International Law, to be financed from provisions in the regular budget and, when necessary, from voluntary contributions.

38. Regarding the funding provided for the Programme of Assistance, a total of $2,267,000 was included in the regular budget under section 8, Legal affairs,

[15] The administrative assistance initially provided by the Codification Division in the 1980s and early 1990s gradually decreased following the establishment of a permanent institution within the Office of Legal Affairs, Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea, which is entrusted with matters related to the law of the sea, including technical capacity-building, to avoid duplication of work and to ensure the proper administration of the fellowship. In recent years, the fellowship has been administered solely by the Division for Ocean Affairs and the Law of the Sea as part of its provision of technical capacity-building with respect to the law of the sea. Additional information on the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Memorial Fellowship will be provided in the annual report of the Secretary-General on oceans and the law of the sea, which will be considered under the agenda item entitled "Oceans and the law of the sea".

subprogramme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017 for the International Law Fellowship Programme, the Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean and the Audiovisual Library of International Law.

39. The General Assembly reiterated its request to Member States and interested organizations, institutions and individuals to make voluntary contributions towards the financing of the Programme of Assistance or to otherwise assist in its implementation and possible expansion. Accordingly, on 5 February 2016, a note verbale was sent to Member States to draw their attention to resolution 70/116.

40. Since the previous report, voluntary contributions have been received for the following activities under the Programme of Assistance: (a) the Audiovisual Library from Austria ($2,000), Ecuador ($5,000), Ireland ($5,000), Italy ($5,000), Mexico ($5,000) and Switzerland ($25,000); and (b) the International Law Fellowship Programme from Ireland ($3,000).

41. With regard to the International Law Fellowship Programme, the Registry of the International Court of Justice provided office space and equipment for staff of the Codification Division and essential administrative and logistical support for the Programme. The International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia also provided financial and administrative support for the Programme. The Hague Academy of International Law provided a reduced tuition rate for the fellows. The Carnegie Foundation provided a seminar room and related equipment for staff of the Codification Division and lecturers.

42. Regarding the Regional Course in International Law for Africa, the Economic Commission for Africa provided a seminar room, offices, equipment and administrative assistance, as well as transportation for lecturers, participants and Codification Division staff. The Permanent Court of Arbitration covered the travel costs of its Deputy Secretary-General, who taught the course on "Peaceful settlement of international disputes".

43. Regarding the Regional Course in International Law for Latin America and the Caribbean, the Government of Uruguay provided a seminar room, offices, equipment and administrative assistance, as well as transportation for lecturers, participants and Codification Division staff. In addition, it organized several cultural visits. The United Nations Development Programme provided administrative, financial and logistical assistance.

44. In addition, publications (electronic and/or hard copy) were provided free of charge to the participants in the various training courses by the following entities: Department of Public Information, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, International Criminal Court, International Committee of the Red Cross, International Centre for the Settlement of Investment Disputes, University of Pretoria and Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Trade of New Zealand. Various entities, publishers and law journals granted permission to include scholarly articles free of charge in the study materials provided to the participants in the training courses (see para. 30).

Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Fellowship on the Law of the Sea

45. Since the previous report, the following States have made contributions to the Hamilton Shirley Amerasinghe Fellowship on the Law of the Sea: Ireland ($3,000) and Monaco ($16,661).

B. During 2017

46. As noted above, with regard to the International Law Fellowship Programme, the Regional Courses in International Law and the Audiovisual Library of International Law, a total of $2,267,000 was included in the regular budget under section 8, Legal affairs, subprogramme 3, Progressive development and codification of international law, of the programme budget for the biennium 2016-2017.

47. As in the case of the International Law Fellowship Programme, the Codification Division will continue to make every effort to achieve cost savings to maximize the number of fellowships provided by the regular budget for the Regional Courses to meet the increasing demand for international law training. The Codification Division will also seek voluntary contributions to award additional fellowships and consider admitting self-funded participants.

1. International Law Fellowship Programme and United Nations Regional Courses in International Law

48. The resources included in the programme budget will provide for the International Law Fellowship Programme and the three United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean to be conducted in 2017 in accordance with General Assembly resolution 70/116. The resources will provide fellowships (covering travel, accommodation, health insurance, study materials and a stipend for living expenses) for a minimum of 20 lawyers from developing countries and countries with emerging economies to attend the training courses. Fellowships for additional participants may be funded by voluntary contributions. Participants may also be admitted on a self-funded basis.

2. United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law

49. The resources included in the programme budget will provide for the two full-time general temporary assistance positions (one P-3 Legal Officer and one General Service (Other level) Video Editing Assistant) required to ensure the continuation and further development of the Lecture Series of the Audiovisual Library of International Law in 2017.

50. The programme budget will also be used for the travel of staff to conduct off-site recordings of numerous lectures at various locations around the world. Such recordings are undertaken to promote broader geographical and linguistic representation of the recorded lectures and to record lecturers who are unable to travel to New York to record owing to advanced age, health reasons or financial constraints.

51. In addition, the resources will be used to obtain the necessary technical supplies and materials and for the digitization of some historical audio and film recordings.

52. Extrabudgetary resources will be utilized to promote greater access to the Audiovisual Library in developing countries and to develop the Historic Archives of the Audiovisual Library (including staff and digitization of additional audiovisual materials).

53. The Secretary-General would continue, if the General Assembly so decides, to request voluntary and in-kind contributions to the Programme of Assistance, in particular to provide for additional fellowships for the Regional

Courses in International Law, the preparation of the handbook in additional languages and the Audiovisual Library of International Law.

V. Advisory Committee on the United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law

A. Membership

54. The General Assembly, by its resolution 70/116, appointed the following 25 Member States as members of the Advisory Committee for the period from 1 January 2016 to 31 December 2019: Argentina, Canada, Chile, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Slovakia, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America and Uruguay.

B. Consideration of the report of the Secretary-General by the Advisory Committee at its fifty-first session

55. The fifty-first session of the Advisory Committee, held on 4 October 2016, was chaired by the Permanent Representative of Ghana to the United Nations, Martha Ama Akyaa Pobee.

56. A Principal Legal Officer of the Codification Division, Virginia Morris, served as Secretary of the Advisory Committee.

57. The following members of the Committee were present on 4 October: Canada, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Ethiopia, France, Germany, Ghana, Italy, Kenya, Lebanon, Malaysia, Portugal, Russian Federation, Singapore, Sudan, Trinidad and Tobago and United States of America. Thailand attended the meeting as an observer in its capacity as host country for the Regional Course in International Law for Asia-Pacific.

58. The Secretary of the Advisory Committee made a statement in which she updated the information contained in the draft report and drew attention to the continuing efforts to strengthen the activities under the Programme of Assistance. In particular, she drew attention to the progress made in the preparation of the handbook in international law, which would be used for the training courses and for distribution to academic institutions and government training centres in developing countries.

59. The Advisory Committee commended the Codification Division for its efforts in implementing and further strengthening the activities under the Programme of Assistance and expressed its appreciation for the preparation of the handbook on international law. In that regard, it was noted that the preparation of that publication depended on voluntary contributions.

Annex

Websites maintained by the Codification Division

Website	*Uniform resource locator*
United Nations Programme of Assistance in the Teaching, Study, Dissemination and Wider Appreciation of International Law	www.un.org/law/programmeofassistance
International Law Fellowship Programme	www.un.org/law/ilfp
United Nations Regional Courses in International Law for Africa, Asia-Pacific and Latin America and the Caribbean	www.un.org/law/rcil
United Nations International Law Seminar for Arab States	http://legal.un.org/poa/seminar.html
United Nations Audiovisual Library of International Law	www.un.org/law/avl
United Nations legal publications portal	http://legal.un.org/cod/publications.shtml
Repertory of Practice of United Nations Organs	http://legal.un.org/repertory/
United Nations Juridical Yearbook	http://legal.un.org/unjuridicalyearbook/
Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the International Court of Justice	http://legal.un.org/icjsummaries/
Summaries of Judgments, Advisory Opinions and Orders of the Permanent Court of International Justice	http://legal.un.org/PCIJsummaries
Reports of International Arbitral Awards	http://legal.un.org/riaa/
United Nations Legislative Series	http://legal.un.org/legislativeseries
Codification and Progressive Development of International Law	http://legal.un.org/cod/
Sixth Committee of the General Assembly	www.un.org/en/ga/sixth
International Law Commission	http://legal.un.org/ilc
Diplomatic conferences (official records of proceedings)	http://legal.un.org/diplomaticconferences
Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court	www.un.org/law/icc
Special Committee on the Charter of the United Nations and on the Strengthening of the Role of the Organization	http://legal.un.org/committees/charter/
Ad Hoc Committee on Criminal Accountability of United Nations Officials and Experts on Mission	http://legal.un.org/committees/criminal_accountability/

Website	*Uniform resource locator*
Ad Hoc Committee on the Administration of Justice at the United Nations	http://legal.un.org/committees/admin_of_justice/
Ad Hoc Committee established by General Assembly resolution 51/210 of 17 December 1996	http://legal.un.org/committees/terrorism/
Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property	http://legal.un.org/committees/immunities/
Ad Hoc Committee on an International Convention against the Reproductive Cloning of Human Beings	http://legal.un.org/committees/cloning/
Ad Hoc Committee on the Scope of Legal Protection under the Convention on the Safety of United Nations and Associated Personnel	http://legal.un.org/committees/safety_convention/